

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 DHA-02 INSE-00 SCA-01 H-02 IO-10

VO-03 SSO-00 /026 W

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O R 292220Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7010

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, CVIS, PE, CI

SUBJECT: CHILEAN PAROLE

REF: STATE 227514

1. TO EXTENT QUESTIONS (REFTEL PARAGRAPH 2) SENATOR KENNEDY MAY RAISE ABOUT CHILEAN PAROLE PROGRAM APPLY TO PERU, WE SUGGEST FOLLOWING POSSIBLE RESPONSES:

A. WE CONSIDER THAT PROGRAM IN PERU IS PROCEEDING STEADILY. PACE DEPENDS PARTLY ON RATE OF REFERRALS FROM UNHCR AND SPEED WITH WHICH NAMES ARE CHECKED THROUGH SANTIAGO. UNHCR INITIALLY REFERRED 29 PRINCIPALS. WE SENT THESE NAMES TO SANTIAGO FOR CLEARANCE AND CONDUCTED 22 INTERVIEWS (SEVEN PERSONS DID NOT RESPOND TO EMBASSY CALL-INS). THE UNHCR THEN REFERRED AN ADDITIONAL 37 CASES. WE FORWARDED THESE NAMES TO SANTIAGO ON SEPTEMBER 18 AND ARE NOW IN PROCESS OF INTERVIEWING. UNHCR INFORMS US IT WILL REFER A FINAL LOT OF ABOUT 50 CASES SOON. WE EXPECT TO HAVE MADE ALL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PAROLE PROGRAM BY YEAR'S END.

B. IN PERU ALL PAROLE CASES ARE REFERRED BY UNHCR WITH ICEM ONLY ARRANGING TRANSPORTATION FOR SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES. UNHCR OBTAINS CASES BY CONSULTING ITS ROSTER OF REFUGEES IN PERU. SINCE UNHCR IS ONLY AGENCY ACCREDITED BY GOP TO HANDLE

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CHILEAN REFUGEES, ALL WHO MIGHT QUALIFY FOR PAROLE FROM PERU

ARE BY DEFINITION ON UNHCR ROLLS.

C. WE HAVE NOT MADE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PAROLE SINCE WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED ANY SECURITY CLEARANCES FROM SANTIAGO. AFTER INITIAL INTERVIEWS, HOWEVER, IT IS CLEAR SOME APPLICANTS WILL BE REJECTED ON OTHER THAN SECURITY GROUNDS. THESE INCLUDE, FOR EXAMPLE, A MAN WHO CAME FROM CHILE AS A REFUGEE BUT IS IN FACT A CITIZEN OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

D. WE OF COURSE WILL NOT DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS WHO WERE CONVICTED OF CRIMES BY EITHER GOC OR GOP, IF SUCH CONVICTIONS WERE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED AND HAVE NO BASIS IN FACT (AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 212(A)(9) OF INA).

2. ATMOSPHERICS: ATTITUDE OF THE GOP TOWARD THE PROGRAM CONTINUES EXTREMELY FAVORABLE, AS PERU IS ANXIOUS TO RESETTLE AS MANY CHILEAN REFUGEES AS POSSIBLE. WHEN PROGRAM WAS ANNOUNCED, IT RECEIVED WIDE COVERAGE IN THE LIMA PRESS. IN RECENT WEEKS, HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY NO MENTION OF IT. AS REGARDS ATTITUDE OF POTENTIAL PAROLEES, AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, NOT ALL CANDIDATES CALLED FOR INTERVIEW APPEAR. BUT THOSE INTERVIEWED REACT WITH AT LEAST SAME DEGREE OF INTEREST AS OTHER PROSPECTIVE IMMIGRANTS TO THE U.S.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PAROLE, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LIMA08083
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750337-0594
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975096/aaaaaest.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 227514
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <10 Jun 2003 by MorefiRH, INA>; RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by MorefiRH>; RELEASED <08 Jul 2003 by MorefiRH>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHILEAN PAROLE
TAGS: SREF, CVIS, PE, CI, (KENNEDY, EDWARD M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006